

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/606,347 | LIN ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Boris Benenson | 2836 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 12/12/2006.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-7, 9-10, and 18-20.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/29/2006
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Detailed Actions

1. Amendment received on 12/12/2006 is entered.
 - a. Claims 1-4, 11-17 and 21 are cancelled.
 - b. Claims 5 and 18 are amended.
 - c. Claims 5-10 and 18-20 are pending in the Application.

Response to the arguments

2. Applicants argue that amended independent Claims 5 and 18 are allowable, because they include two, first and second, counting loops and two, first and second, counters used in the two counting loops respectively. Examiner agrees that neither Pohl nor Makaran disclose that feature, as it was agreed during Interview on 11/14/2006.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney of the Application Benjamin J. Hauptman on 2/27/2007. The application has been amended as follows:

4. In Claim 5:
 - a. on line 2 between "said method" and "comprising steps of:" insert - **using a first counter for counting a first stopping number and a second counter for counting a second stopping number, said method** --.
 - b. on line 5 replace "a first stopping number;" with -- **the first stopping number counted by the first counter**--.
 - c. on line 14 replace "equal to a second stopping number;" with -- **equal to the second stopping number counted by the second counter**--.
5. Cancel Claim 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 5-7, 9-10, and 18-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Art Unit: 2836

7. Independent Claims 5 and 18 are allowable because none of the prior art of record disclose a fan protection method or apparatus comprising a first counter for counting a first stopping number that stops the fan for a first time period and a second counter for counting a second stopping number that stops the fan for a second time period in combination with the other claim limitations.

8. Claims 6-7, 9-10, and 19-20 are dependent on allowable claims and therefore allowable.

Comments to reasons for allowance

9. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boris Benenson whose telephone number is (571) 272-2048. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:20-6:00) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Boris Benenson
Examiner
Art Unit 2836

B.B.



BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800